

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 AF-04 ARA-06 NEA-06 RSC-01

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7437

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 5037

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: SEDU, UN, UNESCO

SUBJECT: 29TH UNGA - ITEM 51, UN UNIVERSITY

REFERENCE: STATE 250454

1. JAPAN MISOFF YAMADA INFORMED USUN THAT UN COUNCIL NOMINATING COMMITTEE NARROWED LIST OF CANDIDATES FOR RECTOR OF UNU TO FIVE NAMES. THEY ARE : (1) HESTER, (U.S.); (2) FURTADO (BRAZIL); (3) JAUMOTTE (BELGIUM); (4) ROCHE (VENEZUELA); (5) DAMBO (NIGERIA).

2. YAMADA SAID THAT NOMINATING COMMITTEE HAD EXPRESSED PREFERENCE FOR FIRST THREE CANDIDATES LISTED. HE FURTHER UNDERSTANDS THAT UNESCO PREFERS HESTER OR JAUMOTTE. IN RESPONSE TO AN INFORMAL QUESTION FROM SYG WALDHEIM, THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT HAS EXPRESSED PREFERENCE FOR HESTER OR JAUMOTTE.

3. USUN AND JAPANESE MISSION UNDERSTAND THAT WALDHEIM IS RECEIVING CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE FROM LATINS TO NAME A LATIN AS RECTOR. THEIR PREFERRED CANDIDATE IS ROCHE. WALDHEIM APPARENTLY IS TRYING TO SORT OUT IN THIS CONNECTION THE MORE GENERAL PROBLEM OF REPRESENTATION OF LATINS AT HIGH LEVELS IN THE UN FAMILY.

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SENTATION OF LATINS AT HIGH LEVELS IN THE UN FAMILY.

LATINS' CASE IS BASED ON THEIR PRESUMPTION THAT THEY ARE BEING SQUEEZED OUT OF UNIDO AND FAO AND THAT THEY HAVE ALREADY "LOST" UNCTAD.

4. PRESSURE FOR EARLY DECISION ON RECTOR STEMS FROM SEVERAL SOURCES. THE SECOND COMMITTEE IS DUE TAKE UP THE ITEM SOON. MR. HESTER APPARENTLY WANTS A DECISION PRIOR TO A SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF HIS UNIVERSITY WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE NOVEMBER 18. FURTHERMORE, UNU COUNCIL PRESIDENT GAUDRY (CANADA) AND NARASIMHAN PRESENTLY INTEND TO VISIT TOKYO NOVEMBER 24. THEY WISH TO TAKE NEWLY NOMINATED RECTOR ON THIS TRIP.
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